

PATENT

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL968293664US

Docket No. YOR920030461US1

1 1. A method classifying electronic mail into multiple directories
2 based upon their spaminess, comprising the steps of:
3 providing an Inbox directory and two or more spam directories, each
4 assigned a range of spaminess;
5 grading the e-mail for spaminess; and
6 assigning the e-mail into one or more of the directories whose
7 assigned ranges of spaminess encompasses the spaminess grade of the
8 incoming e-mail.

1 2. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the spaminess
2 ranges assigned to at least two of the directories overlap such that an e-
3 mail whose grade is encompassed within the overlap is contained in both of
4 such directories.

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1 3. The method as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising
2 presenting the user with an indication that the email has been placed in
3 more than one directory.

1 4. The method as set forth in Claim 2, further comprising
2 prompting the user to take an action on the email that has been placed in
3 more than one directory.

1 5. The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the action
2 comprises voting on the spaminess of the incoming email.

1 6. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising
2 receiving new information on user behavior and re-grading email based on
3 the new information.

1 7. The method as set forth in Claim 6 further comprising
2 relocating email from one directory to another based on the re-grading.

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1 8. A mail system comprising in combination:
2 a grader that analyses an incoming e-mail and assigns a grade to
3 the incoming e-mail; and
4 an Inbox directory and two or more spam directories, each assigned
5 a range of spaminess, the directories respectively containing the incoming
6 e-mail whose spaminess grade is encompassed the spaminess range
7 assigned to the directory.

1 9. The mail system as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the
2 spaminess ranges assigned to at least two of the directories overlap such
3 that an incoming e-mail whose grade is encompassed within the overlap is
4 contained in both of such directories.

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- 1 10. A computer system including a processor for processing
2 incoming mail, the system including an Inbox directory and a plurality of
3 spam directories into which said incoming mail is processed, each said
4 spam directory being assigned a range of spaminess into which the
5 incoming e-mail for spaminess is delivered according to the respective
6 assigned ranges of spaminess.
- 1 11. A computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for:
2 providing an Inbox directory and two or more spam directories, each
3 assigned a range of spaminess;
4 grading the incoming e-mail for spaminess; and
5 delivering the incoming e-mail into one or more of the directories whose
6 assigned ranges of spaminess encompasses the spaminess grade of the
7 incoming e-mail.